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## The BG News October 21, 2020

Bowling Green State University

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**news**

**ESTABLISHED 1920**

Wednesday, October 21, 2020

Volume 100, Issue 10

# VOTE

# YOUR VOICE MATTERS

# VOTE

# TAX

A graphic with a blue background. The word "VOTE" is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters on the top line. The year "2020" is written in the same style on the bottom line. The text is centered horizontally.

# TWO FRIENDS

# Wood County Candidates

BG News Staff

## Wood County Commissioners



### Bruce Jeffers (Dem.)

Bruce Jeffers, a former two-term Bowling Green City Councilman, is running against Bowlus as the Democratic candidate. Along with City Council, Jeffers has worked as a teacher for 35 years and is a contributing member to the Brown Bag Food Project.

Jeffers believes that clear and transparent guidance from leadership roles are conducive to stopping the spread of COVID-19. His main priorities include improving the county's infrastructure by reallocating tax dollars in the budget and investing in sustainable efforts for the environment. He is also focused on establishing economic growth by evaluating corporation tax grants.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY [JEFFERSFORCOMMISSIONER.COM](http://JEFFERSFORCOMMISSIONER.COM)



### Ted Bowlus (Rep.)

Ted Bowlus has served as the Wood County Commissioner for four years, and is running for re-election as the incumbent and Republican candidate. Prior to his position, Bowlus was the past president of the Wood County Board of Health and a member of the

Eastwood Board of Education. Currently, Bowlus is developing the Focus on the Future Committee, which will research the current pandemic and the risk of future viruses. His main priorities include regulating the county budget, keeping tax dollars relatively low and building upon economic growth by creating more job opportunities. His platform is also focused on improving road and bridge conditions through annual funding.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY [THENBXPRESS.COM](http://THENBXPRESS.COM)

## Judge of Common Pleas



### Joel M. Kuhlman (Dem.)

Attorney Joel M. Kuhlman is 39 years old and is running for the Wood County Judge of Common Pleas. He served on the Board of Revisions from 2012 to 2016, where he oversaw property tax appeal cases. According to [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org), Kuhlman's non-

judicial legal experience includes "representing individuals, businesses, and municipalities in civil, criminal and administrative matters," he wrote. He is running for this position because he is "committed to making his community the best place it can be to work, raise a family, and go to school."

PHOTO PROVIDED BY [UAKRON.EDU](http://UAKRON.EDU)



### Corey James Speweik (Rep.)

Attorney Corey James Speweik is 42 years old and is running for the Wood County Judge of Common Pleas. He is currently serving as the alternate magistrate on the Walbridge Mayor's court. According to [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org), Speweik's non-judicial legal experience includes

"seeing issues from both sides," as well as "practice in family law, complex civil litigation, mediation and arbitration," he wrote. He is running for this position because he "wants to help the residents of the county by making sure the legal system is functioning at the highest level possible — without compromise."

PHOTO PROVIDED BY [UAKRON.EDU](http://UAKRON.EDU)

## Wood County Sheriff



### Ruth Babel-Smith (Dem.)

Babel-Smith is a retired 25-year lieutenant deputy sheriff, adjunct instructor at Owens Community College and also is an auxiliary officer for the Lake Township Police Department. She is working on a Doctoral degree at BGSU, and she has received a Masters in Criminal Justice from Tiffin University and Bachelor of Fine Arts from BGSU. "My main goal and policy is always

public safety above politics," Babel-Smith said in an interview with the BG Independent News. In a paid political advertisement, her plan is said to consist of promoting an atmosphere of transparency and accountability to the citizens, evaluate staffing levels within the Sheriff's office, review the jail expansion plan, create an atmosphere of trust and respect and reestablish a working relationship with mutual respect between all law enforcement agencies.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY [THENBXPRESS.COM](http://THENBXPRESS.COM)



### Mark Wasylyshyn (Rep.)

He is in his 16th year as sheriff for Wood County and previous officer at Perrysburg Township Police Department. He received a Bachelor of Arts at Hillsdale College in 1983. His qualifications include being a member of Executive Committee National Sheriff's Association from 2012 to present, sheriff since 2001

and the 2017 Buckeye State Sheriff's Association president. According to BG Independent News, he is committed to the accountability and transparency of officer patrolling, leadership in the workspace and community, integrity and overall honesty. He wants to increase the mental health services within the jail as well as establishing a stronger relationship with the minority community.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY [WOODCOUNTYSHERIFF.COM](http://WOODCOUNTYSHERIFF.COM)



# Wood County issues

## BG News Staff

**T**here will be two tax issues appearing on the 2020 primary election ballot for Wood County voters this year. Both are tax levy renewals which can be voted for or against, or voters can choose to abstain. A majority affirmative vote is necessary for the passage of either issue.

# Wood County District Public Library

This proposed tax levy renewal is to maintain the funding the library receives through taxes. For every \$100, the tax will take 8 cents. If the renewal passes, it will run for six years starting in 2021, and the first due will be in 2022.

**Full text:**

*A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Wood County District Public Library for the purpose of current expenses at a rate not exceeding eight tenths (0.8) mill for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to eight cents (\$0.08) for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for six (6) years, commencing in 2021, first due in calendar year 2022.*

# Wood County Health District

This proposed tax levy renewal is to maintain the funding for Wood County public health services. For every \$100, the tax will take 5 cents. If the renewal passes, it will run for 10 years starting in 2021, and the first due will be in 2022.

**Full text:**

*A renewal of a tax for the benefit of Wood County Health District for the purpose of providing an adequate amount necessary for the purpose of providing or maintaining public health services at a rate not exceeding five-tenths (0.5) mill for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to five cents (\$0.05) for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for ten (10) years, commencing in 2021, first due in calendar year 2022.*



PHOTO BY **PRESTON INGOL**

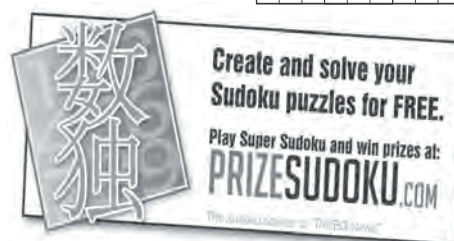
## THE BG NEWS SUDOKU

		8						
				5		6		
	1		6			9		2
7	9	3	5					1
6	5				8		2	
						4	7	
1		9	4	6		2		3
	8	5			2		9	
2					1			

## SUDOKO

To play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3 x 3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. There is no guessing or math involved. Just use logic to solve

2	3	6	8	2	4	9	5	1	7
4	8	5	3	7	2	1	9	6	
1	7	9	4	6	5	2	8	3	
8	2	1	9	3	6	4	7	5	
6	5	4	7	1	8	3	2	9	
7	9	3	5	2	4	8	6	1	
5	1	7	6	8	3	9	4	2	
9	4	2	1	5	7	6	3	8	
3	6	8	2	4	9	5	1	7	



# The Daily Crossword Fix

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17							18				19			
20						21					22			
				23					24	25				
26	27	28	29		30				31					
32					33			34		35		36	37	38
39				40				41	42					
43						44	45				46			
			47	48		49				50				
51	52	53					54			55				
56					57	58					59	60	61	62
63					64				65					
66					67					68				
69					70					71				

1. 57 in Roman numerals
2. Acquire deservedly
3. Quaint outburst
4. Adorable
5. Scoundrels
6. Derided
7. Friendly
8. Fur
9. Allergic reaction
10. Sadistic mistress
11. Small African antelope
12. Implied
13. Gash
21. Blockage of the intestine
25. At one time (archaic)
26. Residence hall
27. Eye layer
28. Blend
29. Suckle
34. He fears foreigners
36. Risqué
37. Poems
38. Toward sunset
40. Nursemaid
42. Water vapor
45. Ablation
48. Render harmless
51. Termagant
52. Two-door car
53. Alpine call
55. Deposits of ore
58. Hotels
59. Half-moon tide
60. Way in
61. Not odd
62. Cleave

## ACROSS

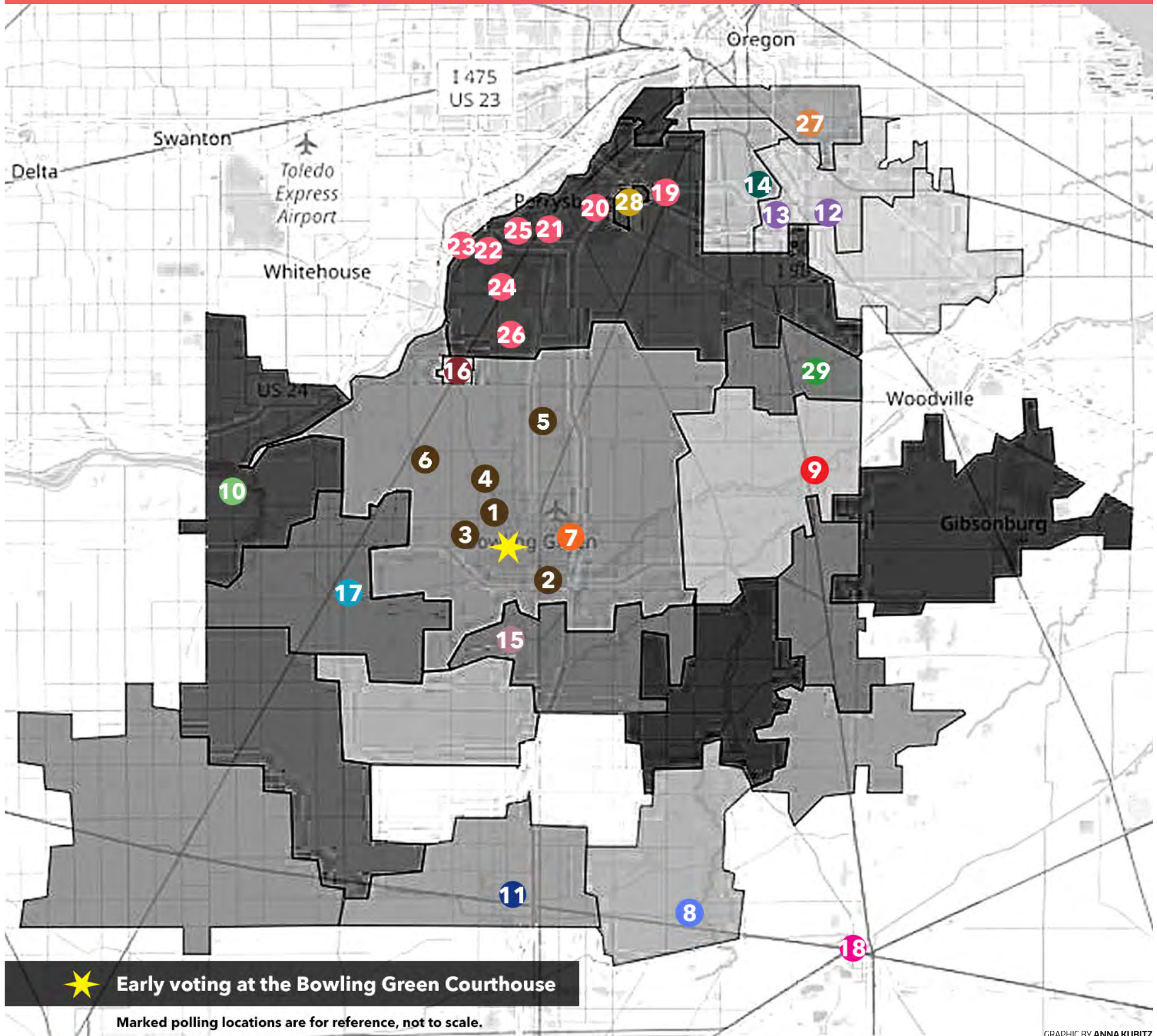
1. Bloodsucker
6. Hats
10. Specks
14. Hard to pin down
15. So be it
16. By mouth
17. Angry
18. Scramble piece
19. Flexible mineral
20. Tasteless
22. Nile bird
23. Generous slice of the pie
24. Highest point
26. Lacking intellectual acuity
30. L
31. Historic period
32. Not under
33. Gorse
35. To scatter about
39. Set free
41. A dais
43. Gentlewoman
44. Fender blemish
46. Frosts
47. Unhappy
49. Caviar
50. A covered garden walk
51. Grass cutting tool
54. Iridescent gem
56. Animal foot
57. Fish seller
63. Boorish
64. Pearly-shelled mussel
65. Deafen
66. Type of sword
67. Prig
68. Consumed
69. Join
70. Feudal worker
71. Go on a buying spree

## ANSWERS

[illegible]



# WOOD COUNTY POLLING LOCATIONS MAP



## WOOD COUNTY POLLING LOCATIONS

**BG News Staff**

### Polling locations for 43402:

1. BG City Park, Veterans Building  
520 Conneaut Ave., Bowling Green

2. Bowling Green Alliance Church  
1161 Napoleon Rd., Bowling Green

3. BG Church of the Nazarene  
1855 Gorrill Rd., Bowling Green

4. Wood County Fairgrounds,  
Junior Fair Building  
Fairgrounds 13800 W. Poe Rd.,  
Bowling Green

5. Middleton Township Building  
21745 N. Dixie HWY, Bowling Green

6. Tontogany American Legion Post 441  
18086 Tontogany Rd., Bowling Green

### Polling locations for 43403:

7. Bowen-Thompson Student Union  
Bowling Green State University

### Polling locations for 44817:

8. Elmwood Community Center  
7650 Jerry City Rd., Bloomdale

### Polling locations for 43450:

9. Pemberville American Legion  
405 E. Front St. #183, Pemberville

### Polling locations for 43522:

10. Grand Rapids Township Fire Hall  
17706 E. 2nd St., Grand Rapids

### Polling locations for 45872:

11. Hancock-Wood Electrical Co-op  
1399 Business Park Dr. S., North Baltimore

### Polling locations for 43447:

12. Millbury Fireman's Hall  
28410 Oak St., Milbury

13. Lake Township Police Department  
27975 Cummings Rd., Milbury

### Polling locations for 43465:

14. Walbridge Municipal Building  
705 N. Main St., Walbridge

### Polling locations for 43451:

15. Christ United Methodist Church  
301 W. Main St., Portage

### Polling locations for 43525:

16. Haskins Village Hall  
405 N. Findlay Rd., Haskins

### Polling locations for 43569:

17. Sonlight Church & Community Center  
19920 Sand Ridge Rd., Weston

### Polling locations for 44830:

18. Stacy's Place  
625 Plaza Dr., Fostoria

### Polling locations for 43551:

19. Rossford Elementary School  
28500 Lime City Rd., Rossford

20. Perrysburg Junior High School  
550 E. South Boundary St., Perrysburg

21. Fort Meigs Elementary School  
26431 Fort Meigs Rd., Perrysburg

22. Toth Elementary School  
200 E. 7th St., Perrysburg

23. Scholler Memorial Hall  
130 W Indiana Ave., Perrysburg

24. Frank Elementary School  
401 W. South Boundary St., Perrysburg

25. Woodland Elementary School  
27979 White Rd., Perrysburg

26. Perrysburg High School  
13385 Roachton Rd., Perrysburg

### Polling locations for 43619:

27. Northwood Schools District Office  
700 Lemoyne Rd., Northwood

### Polling locations for 43460:

28. St. George Banquet Hall  
740 Glenwood Rd., Rossford

### Polling locations for 43443:

29. Troy Township Maintenance Building  
237 Krotzer Ave., Luckey

### For early voting only:

Bowling Green Courthouse  
1 Court House Square, Bowling Green

For more information visit the **Wood County Board of Elections** website by scanning the QR code below.



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# Opinion: Local elections are more important than national ones

**Shaelee Haaf** | Editor-in-Chief

With every presidential election that passes, the candidates seem to become less and less palatable. Races within the past several years have been described as a “dumpster fire,” a “trainwreck” or simply downright embarrassing.

Although a record-breaking 139 million voters took part in the 2016 election, 14 states saw more voters participate in senate races than the presidential race according to Business Insider. Data from the United States Election Project showed that 2.4 million voters cast their ballots, but left the presidential line blank.

Voter turnout for national elections has always been significantly higher than primaries, midterm or local elections,

“Your vote is more likely to ‘count’ in off-year or local elections, because there are less people casting their ballots and results in you making up a larger percentage of the voter base.”

— **Shaelee Haaf** —  
Editor-in-Chief

but some people they feel like their vote doesn't count for a number of reasons when in fact, it matters much more than they think, especially when it comes to smaller elections.

If you recall 2015, there was a short time when an independent, third-party candidate called ‘Deez Nuts’ showed up on the Public Policy Polling surveys in Iowa, Minnesota and North Carolina. While Nuts only came in around 9%, the fact that he made it onto the polls in the first place goes to show people have the power to make change.

Statistically speaking, your vote is more likely to “count” in off-year or local elections, because there are less people casting their ballots and results in you making up a larger percentage of the voter base.

If you grew up watching “Schoolhouse

Rock,” one you have good taste and two, you’d certainly be familiar with the iconic “I’m Just a Bill” song. Anytime someone with significant governmental power makes a decision in the capital, it doesn’t happen right off the bat. The system of checks and balances means a number of people will review it before a final decision is made, and as the catchy three-minute tune describes, it’s a “long, long wait while sitting in committee.”

It's rare that a law is passed in which every single state, city and town in the U.S. must follow to a T. Congress often takes their sweet, sweet time making decisions (too many cooks in the kitchen, right?). One of the only instances they've made an efficient, unanimous decision was choosing to send out the stimulus checks amid the pandemic.

Change starts small. The decisions of mayors and council members (who are elected by the people) impact citizens in a more immediate and direct way than decisions coming out of Washington D.C. Local officials direct the day-to-day operations of schools, parks, libraries and infrastructures around the city among other issues like where taxpayer money is allocated.

As this year's presidential election becomes all the more eyebrow-raising, astounding and befuddling, consider putting more effort into understanding the candidates and issues surrounding your community.

“Local officials direct the day-to-day operations of schools, parks, libraries and infrastructures around the city among other issues like where taxpayer money is allocated.”

— **Shaelee Haaf** —  
Editor-in-Chief

# LOCAL

# ELECTIONS

# MATTER



# Column: Wood County needs poll workers

**Hannah Boyle** | Reporter

The United States is facing a poll worker shortage in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. While the country has dealt with insufficient numbers in the past, 2020 is proving to be an especially difficult time to recruit. The majority of older people who typically work the polls are opting to stay home due to COVID-19.

For this reason, much of the focus for recruitment has been focused on highschool seniors and college-aged people. If the country does not get the situation managed, especially states where the shortage is dire, in-person voting on election day faces a major threat.

Without a sufficient number of staffers to fill polling locations, voters on election day could be looking at extremely long wait times or worse — closed polling places.

In an article by TIME, Commissioner of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, Benjamin Hovland explained, "What we've heard from election officials is just a massive dropout of poll workers. That has real consequences. You can't open polling places if you don't have poll workers."

This shortage has prompted Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose to create an online poll worker tracking system, in which people have access to important staffer numbers in the state and its counties.

In a press release from the official Secretary of State website, LaRose states that "... Our innovative recruitment campaigns appear to have put Ohio in a far better position than other states," but that Ohioans need to step up in order for the state to be able to meet its goal. As of Oct. 15, Ohio needed 6,914 more people to staff locations — in Wood County, the number is only 47. Due to this nationwide shortage, and specific needs in Ohio and Wood County, students need to step up and take on the responsibilities that the older generations previously held.

At BGSU, two students were selected in early September to act as WorkElections fellows in collaboration with Campus Vote Project and Power the Polls. Myself and graduate student Charis Hoard have been hard at work and have recruited some 110 poll workers as of Oct. 15.

Hoard said, "I feel like we've done a lot in such a short time, but there's still more that can be done. Wood County is such a big county and we need as many poll workers as we possibly can to have more polling places open on Nov. 3."

Hoard continued, "Students are not only

"This shortage has prompted Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose to create an online poll worker tracking system, in which people have access to important staffer numbers in the state and its counties."

— **Hannah Boyle** —  
Reporter

in university to learn about their prospective careers, but to become more involved and informed members of our society. Getting involved in our democracy is a great way to start! (Becoming a poll worker) also shows how important it is that we all take voting seriously and keep our elections free and fair for all."

Unless under the age of 18 workers must be registered to vote in the county they are planning to work in. Pay is typically between \$100 and \$200 depending on county and state, unpaid training is required and staffers work the whole day, roughly 15 hours.

If interested, visit one of these three links for more information on eligibility, payment, hours and how to register: [powerthepolls.org/CVPM](http://powerthepolls.org/CVPM) for the Midwest, [powerthepolls.org/CVPE](http://powerthepolls.org/CVPE) for the East Coast or [powerthepolls.org/CVPS](http://powerthepolls.org/CVPS) for the West Coast or South.

"Students are not only in university to learn about their prospective careers, but to become more involved and informed members of our society. Getting involved in our democracy is a great way to start!"

— **Hannah Boyle** —  
Reporter



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# State candidates

BG News Staff

## 2nd Ohio Senate District



### Joel O'Dorisio, Bowling Green (Dem.)

Joel O'Dorisio is a BGSU professor and executive member of the American Association of University Professors for the university. Some goals of his campaign include investing in public education, providing affordable healthcare and increasing the minimum wage. According to Ballotpedia, he is running "to represent working families in our community," he wrote. Beyond his campaign, O'Dorisio is an artist, glass blower and sculptor, teaching art curriculum at BGSU. He defeated Reem Subei in the 2nd District Democratic primary in April by 4%. For more information on O'Dorisio's policies, visit [joelforohio.com](http://joelforohio.com).

PHOTO PROVIDED BY [ACADEMEBLOG.ORG](http://ACADEMEBLOG.ORG)



### Theresa Gavarone, Bowling Green (Rep.)

Theresa Gavarone is the current 2nd District representative of the Ohio Senate and is campaigning for re-election. The key issues of her campaign include protecting small businesses, improving the health of Lake Erie, supporting local agriculture and more. From 2016 to 2019, Gavarone represented District 3 of the Ohio House of Representatives. She was uncontested in the April Republican primary for 2nd District. For more information on Gavarone's policies, visit [theresagavarone.com](http://theresagavarone.com).

PHOTO PROVIDED BY [OHIOSENATE.GOV](http://OHIOSENATE.GOV)

## 3rd Ohio House District



### Laurel Johnson (Dem.)

Laurel Johnson is a dispensary agent with a year's worth of political experience interning in the Ohio Senate for Edna Brown. Laurel has a B.A. in Communication studies from Kent State University and is running with the Democratic Party. Laurel supports automatic mailings for absentee ballots and would like to work towards an increase in secure drop boxes for voters, combating gerrymandering by including thorough oversight in the redistricting process and holding town meetings before districts are finalized, increasing corporate taxes to help support education and restoring clean energy standards that were reduced through HB6.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY [TWITTER.COM](http://TWITTER.COM)



### Haraz N. Ghanbari (Rep.)

Haraz N. Ghanbari is a State Representative serving his first term in the Ohio House and he is a U.S. Naval Officer with two decades of military experience. Haraz graduated from Kent State in 2004, U.S. Naval War College in 2016, and he has a master's degree from the University of Toledo, 2019. Haraz is running with the Republican party and supports having early, absentee and in-person voting and wants to keep funding the Postal Service. Haraz also supports ending gerrymandering, increased funding and student learning in the education system and increasing clean energy production.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY [OHIOHOUSE.GOV](http://OHIOHOUSE.GOV)

## 5th Congressional District



### Nick Rubando (Dem.)

Nick Rubando is running for Ohio's Fifth Congressional District against Incumbent Bob Latta. He attended Indiana University, where he received a bachelor's degree in Journalism. Rubando works for the Toledo Metroparks, and previously worked for a tech start-up aimed to make healthy living easy and affordable for Americans. Through his years of experience, he has volunteered for campaigns, including President Barack Obama's campaign, and reached out into the community to help those in need. He supports expanding healthcare, improving the economy and environmental protection. He plans to create a movement for everyday people, fight for communities and find common sense approaches to injustice.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY [BALLOTPEDIA.ORG](http://BALLOTPEDIA.ORG)



### Bob Latta (Rep.)

Incumbent Congressman Bob Latta has served Ohio's Fifth Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives since 2007. He received his B.A. at Bowling Green State University (1978), and his J.D. at the University of Toledo College of Law (1981). Latta serves on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, the Subcommittee on Communication and Technology, the Subcommittee on Energy and the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Commerce. He also serves as a Deputy Whip and co-chairs the Rural Broadband Caucus and the Congressional Propane Caucus. He advocates for economic prosperity and job creation for Americans in Northwest and West Central Ohio. His plans are to balance the budget, maintain a strong national defense and implement common sense government reforms.

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